

**United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

Decision

**Categorical Exclusion Not Established By Statute
DOI-BLM-CO-S070-2014-0023-CX**

April 2014

Canyons of the Ancients National Monument

Location: Montezuma County, Colorado

Applicant/Address: *Bureau of Land Management
27501 Highway 184
Dolores, CO 81323*

Canyons of the Ancients National Monument
27501 Highway 184
Dolores, Colorado 81323
970-882-5600
FAX 970-882-7035



DECISION

Categorical Exclusion Not Established By Statute DOI-BLM-CO-S070-2014-0023-CX

CANM Recreation & Transportation Sign Installations

I have reviewed the proposed action as described in the attached Categorical Exclusion (CX) (DOI-BLM-CO-S070-2014-0023). After review I have determined to allow the following project to proceed: Installation of recreation and transportation signs in Canyons of the Ancients National Monument.

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with BLM Manual H-1790, National Environmental Policy Act Handbook dated 01/30/2008, Appendix 4, sections G.2 and G.4.

Compliance and Monitoring: The BLM Park Ranger and other staff as available will monitor sign locations and replace signs as necessary.

PLAN CONFORMANCE AND CONSISTENCY:

The proposed action have been reviewed and found to be in conformance with one or more of the following BLM Land Use Plans and the associated decision(s):

Name of Plan: Canyons of the Ancients Resource Management Plan

Date Approved: June 2010

The proposed action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decision (objectives, terms, and conditions):

Manage and enable access to the Monument for recreational activities while, at the same time, protecting cultural and natural resources ensuring compatibility with other existing and permitted uses, and considering effects on adjacent landowners and the local community (page 86 Record of Decision).

APPROVED:



Marietta Eaton
Canyons of the Ancients National Monument
Manager

5.18.14

Date

Protest/Appeal Language:

If you are adversely affected by this decision, within 30 days of receipt of this decision you have the right of appeal to the Interior Board of Land Appeals, Office of the Secretary, in accordance with the regulations at 43 CFR Part 4.

**United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management**

**Categorical Exclusion
DOI-BLM-CO-S070-2014-0023-CX**

**April 2014
CANM Recreation & Transportation Sign Installations**

Location: Canyons of the Ancients National Monument routes and trails

***Applicant/Address: Bureau of Land Management
27501 Highway 184
Dolores, CO 81323***

**Canyons of the Ancients National Monument
27501 Highway 184
Dolores, CO 81323
(970) 882-5600
(970)882-7035**



CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DOCUMENTATION

A. Background

BLM Office: BLM Canyons of the Ancients National Monument (CANM)

Proposed Action Title/Type: Canyons of the Ancients National Monument Recreation & Transportation Sign Installation

Location of Proposed Action: Ten “You Are Here” maps would be installed specifically at trail junctions in the Sand Canyon/Rock Creek Special Recreation Management area. Other travel management route designations and parking instruction signs would be installed along existing travel routes in the Monument.

Description of Proposed Action: BLM CANM proposes to install trail signs in the Sand Canyon Rock Creek Special Recreation Management Area. The signs would be placed on the surface and reinforced with stones at the base. No surface disturbance is anticipated. For travel route signs, post holes would be dug within the existing right of way.

B. Land Use Plan Conformance

Land Use Plan Name: Canyons of the Ancients National Monument Resource Management Plan

Date Approved/Amended: Record of Decision, June, 2010.

The proposed action is in conformance with the applicable LUP because it is specifically provided for in the following LUP decision(s):

RMP ROD page 92, Transportation:

- “Restrict foot travel, horseback riding, and mechanized travel to designated routes only in SRMA2 (Sand Canyon/Rock Creek).”
- “Limit motorized and mechanized vehicle use to designated routes. (NOTE: Motorized or mechanized vehicles may pull off designated routes and park parallel to the route’s disturbed surface. Tire tracks should be [no] more than 20 feet from the edge of the route surface.)”

RMP ROD, page 89, Recreation:

- “Promote a strategy for destination recreation management for Sand Canyon/Rock Creek... Provide specific public access points and appropriate support facilities.”

Trail signs in the Sand Canyon/Rock Creek Special Recreation Management Area are designed to be placed on the surface with no ground disturbance and supported by rocks. They are small, low profile and located specifically at junctions where visitors face trail choice decisions. Sign placement is chosen to be out of the way of potentially fast moving bicyclists or horseback riders.

C. Compliance with NEPA

The Proposed Action is categorically excluded from further documentation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) in accordance with 43 CFR Part 46.210

BLM Manual H-1790-1-National Environmental Policy Act Handbook dated 01/30/2008,
Appendix 4 – BLM Categorical Exclusions:

G. Transportation:

2. Installation of routine signs, markers, culverts, ditches, waterbars, gates or cattleguards on/or adjacent to roads and trails identified in any land use or transportation plan or eligible for incorporation in such plan.

4. Placement of recreational, special designations, or information signs, visitor registers, kiosks, and portable sanitation devices.

This categorical exclusion is appropriate in this situation because there are no extraordinary circumstances potentially having effects that may significantly affect the environment. The proposed action has been reviewed, and none of the extraordinary circumstances described in 43 CFR Part 46.215 apply.

D: Signature

Authorizing Official:



Date: 5.18.14

Marietta Eaton
Monument Manager

Contact Person

For additional information concerning this CX review, contact:

Victoria Atkins

Supervisory Interpretive Specialist

BLM—Canyons of the Ancients National Monument

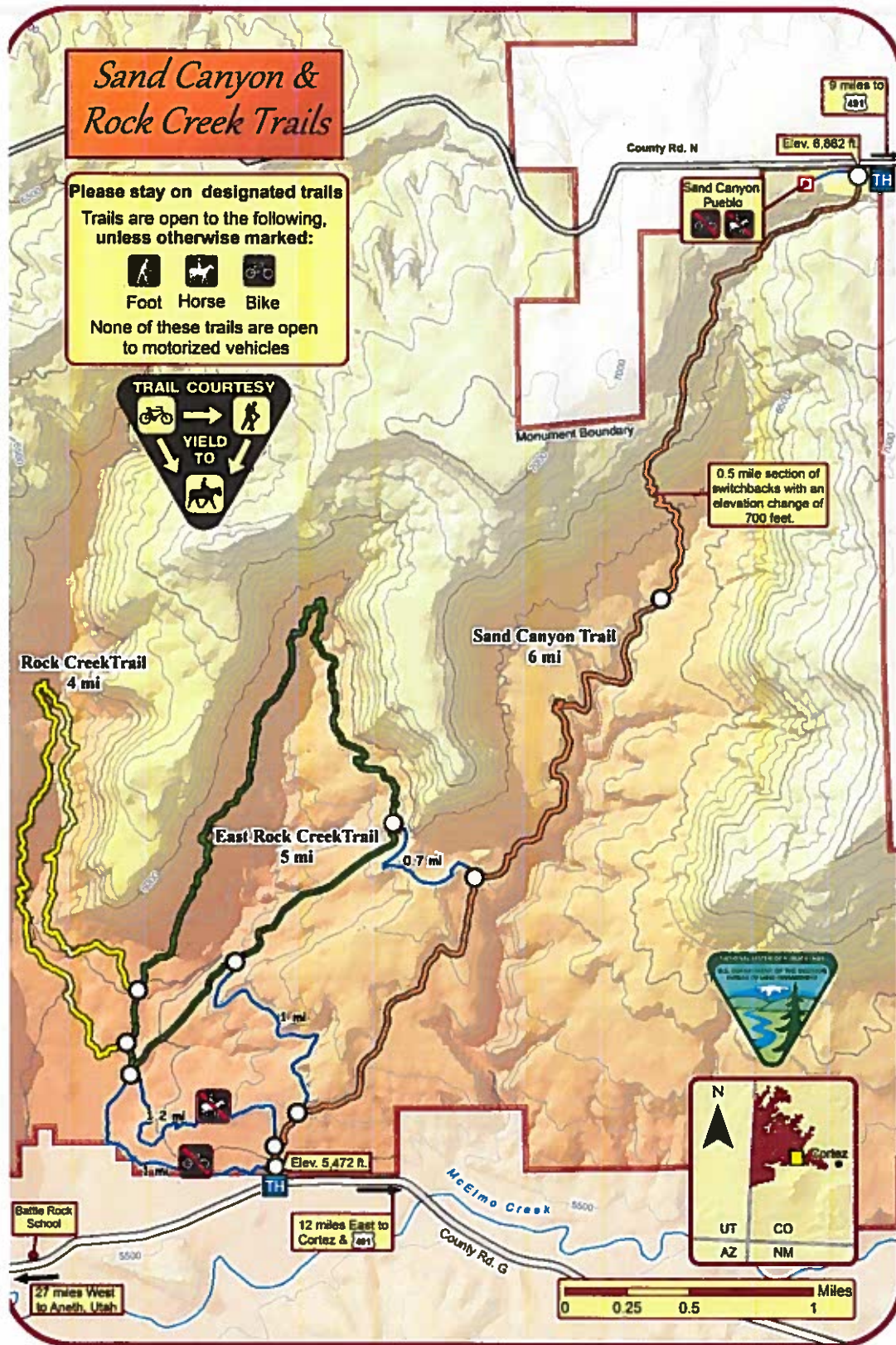
27501 Highway 184

Dolores, CO 81323

Ph: 970-882-5610

Attachments

1. Sand Canyon Rock Creek Trails map [with sign locations]
2. CANM RMP Transportation Map



CANYONS OF THE ANCIENTS NATIONAL MONUMENT

Categorical Exclusion Review Record

14-0018 - CANM Recreation & Transportation Sign Installations

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Resource	Yes/No*	Assigned Specialist Signature	Date
Air Quality	N/A		
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern	N/A		
Cultural Resources	N/A	J.V. Shaw	3.25.14
Environmental Justice	N/A		
Farm Lands (prime or unique)	N/A		
Floodplains	N/A		
Invasive Species/Noxious Weeds	NO	Michael J. [Signature]	3/26/14
Migratory Birds	NO	Matthew [Signature]	3/26/14
Native American Religious Concerns	NA	M. Eaton	
Threatened, Endangered, or Candidate Species	NG	Matthew [Signature]	3/26/14
Wastes (hazardous or solid)	N/A		
Water Quality (drinking or ground)	N/A		
Wetlands / Riparian Zones	N/A		
Wild and Scenic Rivers	N/A		
Wilderness	N/A		
Other:			

*Extraordinary Circumstances apply.

Environmental Coordinator

Lina Jones

Date: 3/26/14